First Congregational

United Church of Christ

111 S. Wallace Blvd. Ypsilanti, MI 48197

www.ypsiucc.org

An open and affirming community committed to peace and justice

January 9, 2022
10:00 am

“Affirmed by Light & Love”

The First Sunday after Epiphany

No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey,
You are welcome here!

WORSHIP ON ZOOM -- Zoom opens at 9:30 am Sunday morning.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7643282234

Meeting ID: 764 328 2234
Passcode: Ypsi1882
To join by phone, dial the number, 1-312-626-6799

- Welcome to Ypsilanti First Congregational UCC's Hybrid Worship Service (In-Person and Zoom)!
- **This morning we will be sharing communion during this service.**
- **If you are worshiping as a Zoomie, please gather your own elements. Creativity is a blessing.**
- **If you are worshiping as a Roomie, please bring your own elements or pick-up the pre-packaged elements on the table near the entrance.**
- **If using the pre-packaged elements, remove the white paper covering one side at a time—beginning with the wafer side. After eating the bread, flip over and open the juice side.**
- Hymns are included in the worship bulletin. A separate hymnal is not needed.
- If you are here for the first time in-person, please show proof of COVID-19 vaccination to our Health Advisor at the door as you enter.
- If you are not vaccinated, we ask that you attend worship on Zoom.
- Please wear a mask if you are worshiping in-person.
- Persons seated, speaking, or singing in the pulpit area may choose not to wear a mask while leading worship.
- If you are joining worship for the first-time on Zoom, please add your name and email to the chat so the Zoomie Greeter can introduce you.
- Thank you for choosing to worship with us today!

OPEN AND AFFIRMING COVENANT OF
First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti

First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti celebrates everyone, including people of all ages, races, cultures, sexual orientations, gender identifies and expressions, family configurations, economic circumstances, physical, cognitive or emotional abilities, education or spiritual or religious traditions. All are welcome to participate fully in the life, leadership, ministry, and missions of this church as we seek to grow together in a safe, nurturing community of faith. We strive to demonstrate in all ways that "NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE OR WHERE YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!"

UNITED in Christ's love, a JUST world for all.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE *Start Zoom Recoding to Cloud **ERIC BANITT**

RINGING THE BELL **MARTY KLEINO**

WELCOME **PASTOR LIZ**

- A warm welcome to all, including first-time visitors.
- All people are invited to participate in this community of faith, regardless of their identities.

ANNOUNCEMENTS **TITO SCHWABE**

- **COMMUNITY SHARING OF OTHER ANNOUNCMENTS:**
  - The Worship Leader will introduce the Zoomie **(PATTY SHERWOOD)** Greeter.
  - The Greeters will introduce folks participating in worship.
  - Please share your announcements so everyone can learn what is happening in our beloved ministry community.
  - Please submit written announcements to Margaret Harner, Worship Coordinator, margaretsharner@gmail.com, by midnight on Tuesday.

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

GATHERING HYMN *Microphone muted *Standing is optional **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"Sing a Different Song"
150 NCH

CALL TO WORSHIP **TITO SCHWABE**

Leader: Arise shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

People: We have seen the star in the sky and have come to worship the Christ Child.

Leader: Seekers shall come to your light, and the wise to the brightness of your dawn.

People: The star is resting over Bethlehem, and we come rejoicing, overwhelmed with joy.

Leader: Let us bring the gift of our hearts and the gift our lives

People: To worship our God of light and love.

HYMN *Microphone muted *Standing is optional **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"
160 NCH

LISTENING FOR GOD

FIRST READING **Isaiah 60:1-6** **TITO SCHWABE**
Mathew 2:1-15

SECOND READING **Luke 3:21-22** **PASTOR LIZ**

HYMN *Microphone muted *Standing is optional **TIFFANIE WALDRON**
"Amen, Amen"
161 NCH

MORNING MESSAGE **"Affirmed by Light & Love"** **PASTOR LIZ**

CONVERSING WITH THE HOLY ONE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *Pause Zoom recording
*Zoomies: Please turn on your microphone

You are invited to share your joys and petitions for prayer.
Please unmute your microphone to share a joy or make a prayer of petition.
At the end of each joy or petition, please say **"God in your mercy"**
We will respond (with microphones muted) **"Hear our prayers"**

PASTORAL PRAYER *Restart Zoom recording **PASTOR LIZ**

DISCIPLES' PRAYER (Unison) *Microphone muted **PASTOR LIZ**

O Breathing Life, your Name shines everywhere!
Release a space to plant your Presence here and imagine your possibilities now.
Embody your desire in every light and form.
Grow through us in this moment inspiring wisdom.
Untie the knots of failure binding us,
as we release the strands we hold of others' faults.
Help us not forget our Source, yet free us from not being in the present.
From you arises every vision, power, and song from gathering to gathering.
May our future actions grow from here! Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY INVITATION **PASTOR LIZ**

Our electronic giving platform is Tithe.ly: Link to Tithe.ly

Checks or cash can also be placed
in the offering plate on the table in front of the pulpit
before or after the service.

Or, checks can be mailed to:
First Congregational United Church of Christ
PO Box 980413, Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Thank you for your generosity!

OFFERTORY **ERIC BANITT**

DOXOLOGY *Microphone muted *Standing is optional **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"TAKE MY GIFTS" 562 NCH

Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me,
Gave me light and food and shelter,
Gave me life and set me free,
Now because your love has touched me, I have love to give away,
Now the bread of love is rising, Loaves of love to multiply!

PRAYER OF DEDICATION *Unison with Microphone muted **TITO SCHWABE**

O God, we come to you seeking to be as wise as those following the Star of Bethlehem. They gave their most precious treasures—symbols of the giving of themselves to the Christ Child. May our gifts be a source of light in places where your light and love are needed most. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN *Microphone muted *Standing is optional **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"Jesus is Here Right Now"
348 NCH

COMMUNION SERVICE **PASTOR LIZ**

No matter who you are and where you are on life's journey, you are welcome at Christ's table!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING **PASTOR LIZ**

DEPARTING WITH PRAISE

CLOSING HYMN *Microphone muted *Standing is optional **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"God of Change and Glory"
177 NCH

BENEDICTION (RESPONSIVE) **PASTOR LIZ**

Leader: The night has gone.

People: The Light has come!

Leader: May the light of the star,

People: The wisdom of the star seekers,

Leader: The hope of the Christ Child,

People: And the love of God,

Leader: Be with you always.

People: Amen.

Leader: Amen.

POSTLUDE *Please remain seated **ERIC BANITT**

TAKE YOUR LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

PASSING THE PEACE **FRIENDS GATHERED**

- Share a greeting with others as we transition to our casual **Friendship Time.**

Hybrid Sunday Worship 10:00 am (Both In-Person & on Zoom)

Rev. Liz Larrivee, Pastor & Spiritual Director
Tiffanie Waldron, Music Director
Eric Banitt, Accompanist

Tito Schwabe, Worship Leader
Patty Sherwood, Greeter
Wayne Burling, Technical Worship Coordinator

YPSILANTI FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
PO Box 980413 111 S. Wallace
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
734-482-6980
ypsiucc.org

ATTRIBUTIONS FOR TODAY'S BULLETIN

- **Cover Art:** Sergey Zhesterev www.unsplash.com
- **Call to Worship, Prayer of Dedication, and Benediction:** Adapted from "The Gift of Light" by Debbie Gline Allen, Commissioned Minister of Christian Formation, who serves as Minister of Faith Formation for the Southern New England Conference, and as the Director of its Faith Formation Leadership Program.
  Faith INFO Ministry Team, UCC. ucc.org/worship-ways
- **Disciples' Prayer:** Adapted from a translation in Aramaic.
- **Hymn Profiles:** *The New Century Hymnal Companion.* Pilgrim Press 1999 & *Chicago Tribune,* 8/16/2002.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations to Tad Wysor for winning "Best Dramatic Performer" as Sheep in the Techie Christmas Pageant! Gratitude to all who participated and for Music Director, Tiffanie Waldron's leadership of this fun and creative celebration of the birth of Christ.

Worship next week: **Jenn Zibbell, Worship Leader; Patty Sherwood, Roomie Greeter; Ellie Guzman, Zoomie Greeter.** Interested in serving as a Worship Leader or Greeter; contact Margaret Harner, Worship Coordinator at margaretsharner@gmail.com

Welcome Rev. Dan Kidder-McQuown! Dan will be serving as our guest preacher on January 30, 2022. **Thank you, Dan,** for the generous sharing of your time, talent and gifts!

Take Them A Meal: At the request of Ann Marie Nicoll-Turner, a "Take Them A Meal" sign up sheet has been created for Patrick O'Brien and Chris Hale to welcome in a Happy New Year. If you order from "Take Them A Meal," make something at home, or order from a restaurant, please enter that information on this form so we all will be able to see where any gaps in the sign-up might occur. Also, please check with Marty Kleino (734-262-1419 or mgkleino@gmail.com), Congregational Life Team Lead, about his availability to deliver food items to Patrick and Chris for you.

Patrick's meal link is: https://takethemameal.com/meals.php?t=HXQM5882 (Password 9186)

Chris's meal link is: https://www.takethemameal.com/EKKN1594 (Password 4819)

Thanks, everyone, for your thoughtfulness and generosity as we wish Chris and Patrick a very Happy and Healthy 2022!

New Worship Team Meeting Time: Mondays from 11:30 am to noon on Zoom. If you have a role in leading worship (Worship Leader, Greeter, Guest Preacher, etc.--or are just someone interested in seeing how the cake is baked), please join in our lively conversation by attending this meeting and sharing your creativity, ideas and feedback. **Thank you to Core Worship Team Members (Tiffanie Waldron: Music Director, Donna Eyster: Moderator, Margaret Harner: Liturgical Worship Coordinator, Wayne Burling: Technical Worship Coordinator, and Jenn Zibbell: Seminary Intern** for collaborating to come to agreement on a ½ hour Mon/Tues timeframe during which we can regularly meet to do this important work.

Church Council Meeting, TUESDAY,1-11-22, 6:00pm on Zoom (Donna Eyster)
Everyone is welcome.

Annual Meeting of the Ypsilanti First Congregational UCC will be held Sunday, February 6, on Zoom, TBA. ANNUAL REPORTS ARE DUE TO PATTY BY 1-17.

Support of St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Night Staff during Covid-19 Surge Thanks to your generosity, Chaplain Rev. Dan Kidder-McQuown, who is serving on the night shift at St. Joes Hospital Ann Arbor, has already received a good supply of eco-friendly coffee cups/lids and individually wrapped candy/snacks for the overwhelmed clinical staff who care for severely ill hospitalized patients. However, he still needs donations of local coffee ground for auto drip. Please check with Dan to find out the preferred coffee brands and flavors before purchasing. If you are interested in helping with this critical need, please contact Dan at 517-240-8413 or via email at

mcq188@gmail.com. In addition, Marty Kleino (734-262-1419 or mgkleino@gmail.com), Congregational Life Team Lead, has volunteered to drop off your donations to St. Joes. **Thank you Dan and Marty!**

Kroger Fundraiser: Have you registered your Kroger card? We get a small check every quarter for purchases made using your card when it's registered. It's a simple process. Go to Kroger.com and click "**Register**" and follow the prompts to register your frequent shopper card number. Then link to the **Community Rewards** site and register with our church. Our number is **83262**, or you can find our name in the drop-down list. Any Questions: contact Barbara Garland at bargarland@yahoo.com or 734-662-5803.

From Margaret Harner-

Jim Toy, Michigan LGBTQ+ Trailblazer and Icon Dies at 91

Jim was so great, and yet so humble. We just lost an amazing man who will live on in the freedoms all of us on the LGBTQ spectrum enjoy today. From our friend Laura Sanders, one of WICIR cofounders.

Jim was a longtime friend of many in our congregation. He lived for many years in Ypsilanti, and although, an Episcopalian, always kept abreast of what was happening at our church. We worked with Jim on many issues including, but certainly not limited to, the passage of the Human Rights Ordinance. We were the only faith community in Ypsilanti that publicly supported the HRO which codified protection of sexual ordination, gender identity and gender expression from discrimination. It was necessary to work for passage three times due to push-back from some of the community, including a referendum which was defeated. Jim was among the leaders of those campaigns.

From *PrideSource*: *On April 15, 1970, at a large demonstration held in Kennedy Square in downton Detroit to protest the war in Vietnam, **Jim Toy** became perhaps the first person in Michigan to publicly come out as gay. A year-and-a-half later, Toy co-founded what was then called the Human Sexuality Office at the University of Michigan, the first campus office in the United States that aimed to serve those we've come to call lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer.*

I encourage everyone to read the full PrideSource article, **Gentlest But Most Unshakeable Campaigner' Jim Toy, Michigan LGBTQ+ Trailblazer and Icon, Dies at 91**

By **Tim Retzloff**|January 3rd, 2022|**Michigan**, **News**

https://pridesource.com/article/gentlest-but-most-unshakeable-campaigner-jim-toy-michigan-lgbtq-trailblazer-and-icon-dies-at-91/?fbclid=IwAR0J5gL-OoiokVsrue6UzAS42-nBld5OXGLq6WgHfJb3wD4o2_x6pLxCGwA

Plans for Jim Toy's memorial celebration are being planned and will be announced at a later date.

OUR CHURCH'S MISSIONS

THE BEACON CENTER

The **Beacon Center** is the newest community social justice of the Ypsilanti First Congregational UCC. As a light to all persons, the Beacon Center's ministry will support the spiritual formation, creative expression, overall thriving and advocacy of at-risk students of all ages, including those affiliated with three primary local institutions of higher learning: Eastern Michigan University, Washtenaw Community College and University of Michigan. In the Spirit of the UCC moto, "That They All Shall Be One", Beacon Center serves as a uniting and unifying umbrella across our congregation serving persons sources through our three other community social justice ministry networks. Those ministries (each detailed below) include WICIR (Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights) serving the immigrant communities, MI-ONA (Michigan Open and Affirming Coalition) serving LGTBQ+ persons, and WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition) which brings together faith, labor and community organizations to address local issues.

The Beacon Center is committed to advocate for self-determination and education for all people, especially students living in poverty, persons of color experiencing racism, and other de-humanizing circumstances and conditions. Beacon Center's student demographics include persons of color, immigrants, minorities, LGTBQ+ folk, women, those with special needs, the economically disadvantaged, those facing housing insecurity, the financially challenged, and the working poor. For additional information on the Beacon Center, please contact Rev. Liz Larrivee at lizlarrivee@gmail.com

IMMIGRATION MINISTRY – WASHTENAW INTERFAITH COALITION FOR IMMIGRANT RIGHTS (WICIR)

Since 2008, **WICIR** has been working with, and in support of, immigrants in Washtenaw County facing challenges of many kinds. At our inception the primary need that brought us together was to support people facing enforcement action by ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement); most often detention, deportation, and removal. To date, WICIR has responded to 650 calls. Always in partnership with folks most affected, many actions and services have evolved as identified by our immigrant siblings, while always keeping focused on our original mission:

To provide culturally sensitive and supportive urgent response to those in Washtenaw County in immigration-related crises; impact local governmental policies to empower and protect immigrant community members; and work toward humane national immigration reform.

Our outreach has been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Many in immigrant communities have experienced significant challenges as they struggle to pay rent, provide food for their families and other basic survival needs. To respond, WICIR, in partnership with Mexiquenses in Michigan (from St. Francis of Assisi Parish), has raised and distributed $200,000 relief funds to immigrants and their families. We have a waiting list of those still in need and will continue this effort as funds are available.

For information about what's happening with immigrant rights and **Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights**, or if you are interested in learning ways to help, please contact Melanie Harner at melharner@gmail.com or through the WICIR website: https://wicir.org/. You can also find a link on the church website.

MICHIGAN OPEN & AFFIRMING COALITION

The Coalition brings together Michigan Conference UCC churches that have declared themselves to be Open and Affirming of people of all gender identities. For information about what's happening with **Michigan Open & Affirming Coalition**, or if you are interested in joining, please contact Wayne Burling (734-377-0696). More information can be found on their website http://www.mi-ona.org or on Facebook (http://www.facebook.com/groups/onami). You can also find a link on the church website.

WASHTENAW REGIONAL ORGANIZING COALITION

First Congregational is a founding institution of the local "organization of organizations" **WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition)**. In many ways, WeROC is a larger illustration of the values and mission we try to live out at First Congregational. WeROC members are, at our core, focused on intentionally re-weaving the frayed fabric of community at a time when forces are at work every day to keep us fragmented, suspicious of each other, feeling isolated. Especially in this time when so many are being hit by the health and economic crises, WeROC's focus on raising voices of those most affected is more important than ever (See COVID-19 Resources at www.werocmi.org) WeROC's Mission Statement is:

WeROC brings together faith, labor, community organizations, and individuals to build the healthy collective power needed to break down the systems that sustain injustice, racism, and economic inequality.

WeROC is affiliated with the Detroit Metro organization MOSES and the Gamliel National Network. Contact Tad Wysor at tadwysor@gmail.com or 734-883-3225.

This past election year showed us good things can happen when we're working together in the same direction. WeROC is moving rapidly **forward** to keep momentum going and find ways to continue to be more effective together in making our communities healthier and more vibrant places; improving the lives of *everyone* in big ways-- especially those who are most vulnerable and whose voice have seldom been heard.

Vigorously

D D

1 Sing a dif-ferent song now
2 Shout a dif-ferent shout now
3 Love a dif-ferent love now
4 Dance a dif-ferent dance now

(Introduction)

Em7/D D Em7 A7

Christ-mas is here, sing a song of peo-ple know-ing God's
Christ-mas is here, shout a shout of joy and gen - u - ine
Christ-mas is here, love with-out con-di - tion, love with - out
Christ-mas is here, dance a dance of war on suf - fering and

B Em7 A7 D

near: The Mes - si - ah is born in the
cheer: Fill the earth and the sky with the
fear: With the hum-ble and poor, with the
fear: Peace and jus - tice are one, in the

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150

2/2

GM7 A7 D Bm G D

face of our scorn, sing a dif-ferent song to
news from on high, shout a dif-ferent shout that
shy and un - sure, love a dif-ferent love. Let
light of the sun. Dance a dif-ferent dance. God's

Em7 A7 D 1–3 4 D

wel-come and warn.
all may come by.
Christ be the cure!
reign has be - gun!

1–3 4

This lively new carol from The Iona Community of Scotland can be accompanied by drums and tambourines to enhance its dance-like quality. The text invites enthusiastic participation in celebrating the Christmas event.

Tune: DIFFERENT SONG 10.10.6.6.10.
John L. Bell, 1987

160 Hark! the Herald Angels Sing
(Jesus, the Light of the World)

John 8:12; 9:5

Charles Wesley, 1739; alt.; adapt. George D. Elderkin; alt.

1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, Je-sus, the light of the world;
2 Joy - ful, all you saints a - rise, Je-sus, the light of the world;
3 Christ, by high-est heaven a - dored, Je-sus, the light of the world;
4 Hail the Bear-er of God's peace! Je-sus, the light of the world;

Glo - ry to the Christ-child bring, Je-sus, the light of the world.
Join the tri - umph of the skies, Je-sus, the light of the world.
Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Word, Je-sus, the light of the world.
Hail the Sun of righ - teous-ness! Je-sus, the light of the world.

Refrain

We will fol - low the light, beau - ti - ful light, come where the dew-drops of mer - cy are bright, Shine all a - round us by day and by night, Je - sus, the light of the world.

The original version of Charles Wesley's hymn has received various alterations throughout the years. This adaptation by George Elderkin utilizes a repeated ascription, "Jesus, the light of the world," and a refrain to create a rousing carol of praise.

Tune: ELDERKIN 7.7.7.7. with refrain
George D. Elderkin
Arr. Jeffrey Radford, 1993

Amen, Amen

African-American spiritual

Mark 3:7–10; Luke 2:7, 46–47; Rom. 6:6–10

Congregation/choir

A - men, a - men, a - men, a - men,

Solo

1 O see the lit-tle ba - by ly - ing in a man - ger
2 See Je - sus in the tem - ple talk - ing to the el - ders;
3 See Je - sus at the sea - shore preach-ing to the peo-ple,
4 See Je - sus on the cross . . . . bear - ing all my sins . . . .
5 Yes, Je - sus died to save us, rose on Eas-ter morn-ing,
6 We're sing-ing Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is my Sav - ior,

(Congregation/choir)

a - men! A - men,

on Christ - mas morn - ing. (2 See)
how they all mar - veled! (3 See)
___ heal-ing all the sick ones! (4 See)
in bit - ter ag - o-ny! (5 Yes,)
and lives for - ev - er! (6 We're)
who lives for - ev - er!

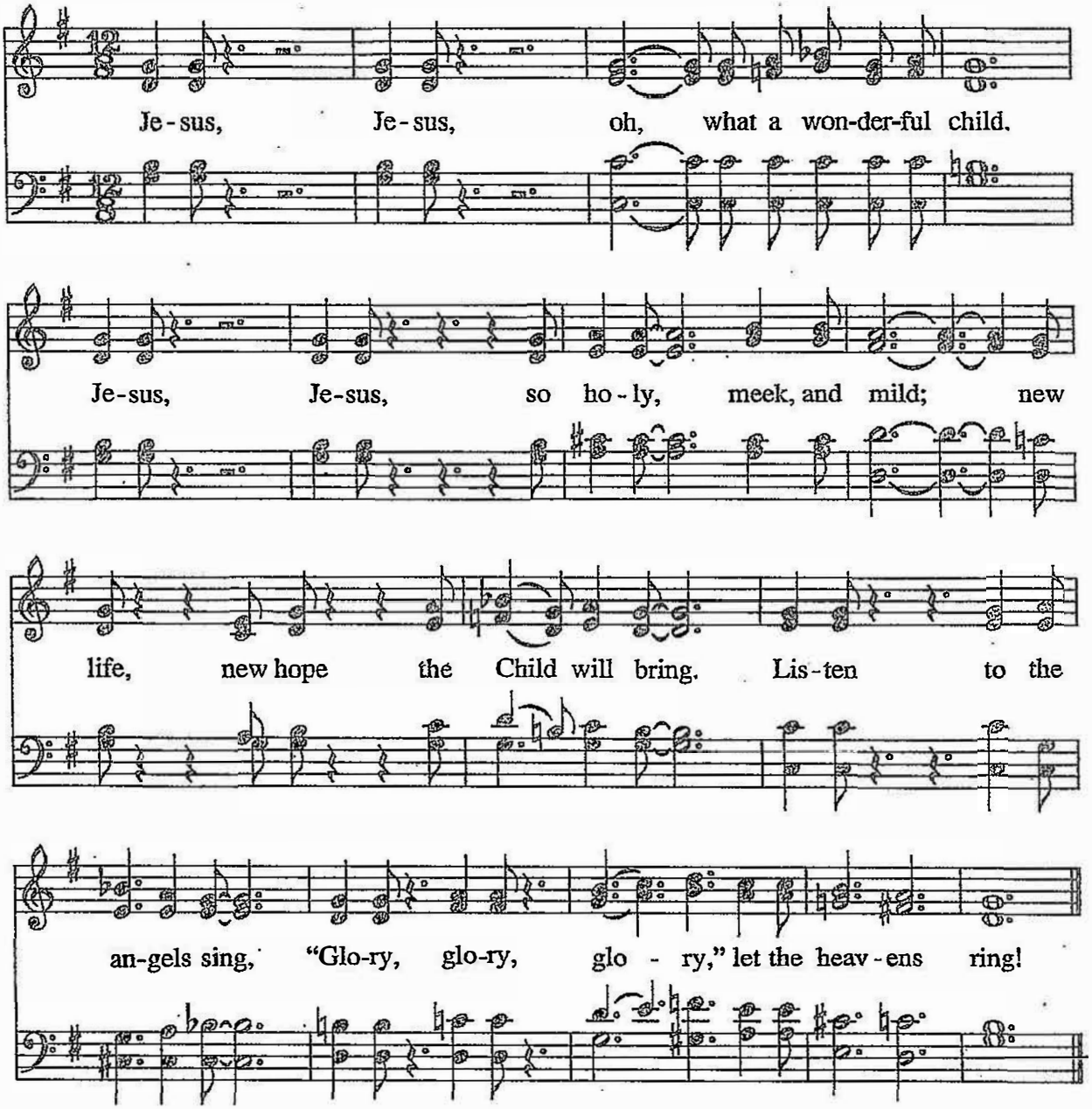
a - men, a - men, a - men, a - men!

This is one of the many spirituals that found fame during the civil rights movement of the 1960s. Its pattern of call-and-response allowed the lead singer to create new verses while those gathered sang the response of "Amen."

Tune: AMEN Irr.
African-American spiritual
Arr. Nelsie T. Johnson, 1988

Jesus, Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child 136

African-American traditional; alt. *Luke 1:30–35; 2:8–14*



This gospel song praising the newborn Child might be effectively used by repeating it several times. It could be sung softly as a background for dance, story, or drama. Finger-snaps on the off-beats might be used to fill the rests.

Tune: WONDERFUL CHILD 11.10.8.7.11.
African-American traditional
Arr. Jeffrey Radford, 1992

Jeffrey Paul Radford, was music director for 36 years at Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago. Under his direction, the Trinity choirs sang throughout Chicago, in a dozen U.S. cities and performed in Switzerland, Germany, Puerto Rico and Cuba. In 1995 he was part of the team that created the UCC New Century Hymnal, with inclusive language and widened the inclusion of new hymns and hymns from around the world. He was instrumental in creating the UCC African American Hymnal.

Mr. Radford's father, a jazz musician, encouraged his son's musical interest. By age 10, Mr. Radford was studying piano. He was an adjunct faculty member at Chicago Theological Seminary and, after his death in 2002, he received a posthumous doctor of divinity degree from CTS for his contributions to musical ministry.

Jesus Is Here Right Now

348

Leon C. Roberts, 1986; alt.

not fast

Je - sus is here right now. Je - sus is

Somewhat detached throughout

here. With this bread and wine true peace you'll

find; Christ Je-sus is here right now. (right now).

to beginning | *Last time, end*

Composer Leon C. Roberts is perhaps best known for his "Mass of St. Augustine" and other liturgical compositions that appear in Lead Me, Guide Me: The African-American Catholic Hymnal. *His work is greatly influenced by priest and composer Clarence Joseph Rivers.*

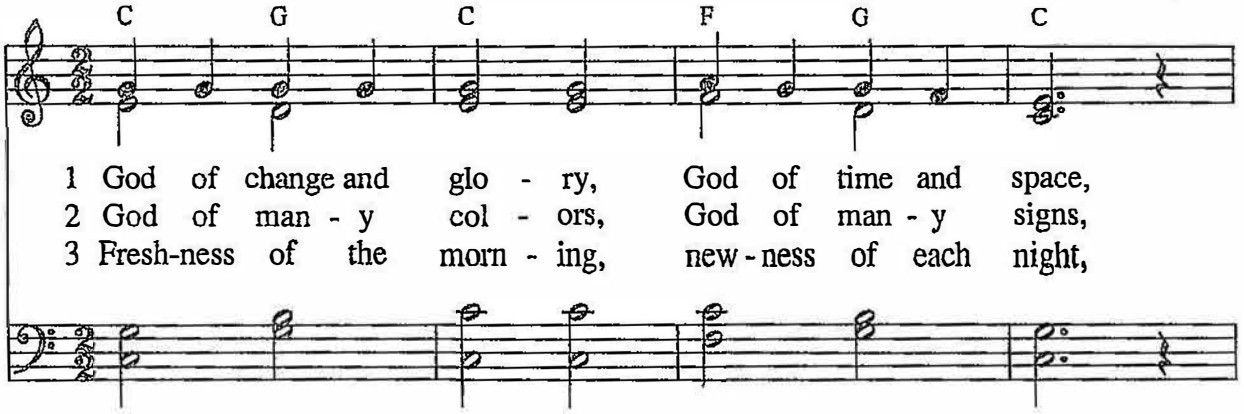
Tune: JESUS IS HERE 6.4.5.4.6.
Leon C. Roberts, 1986

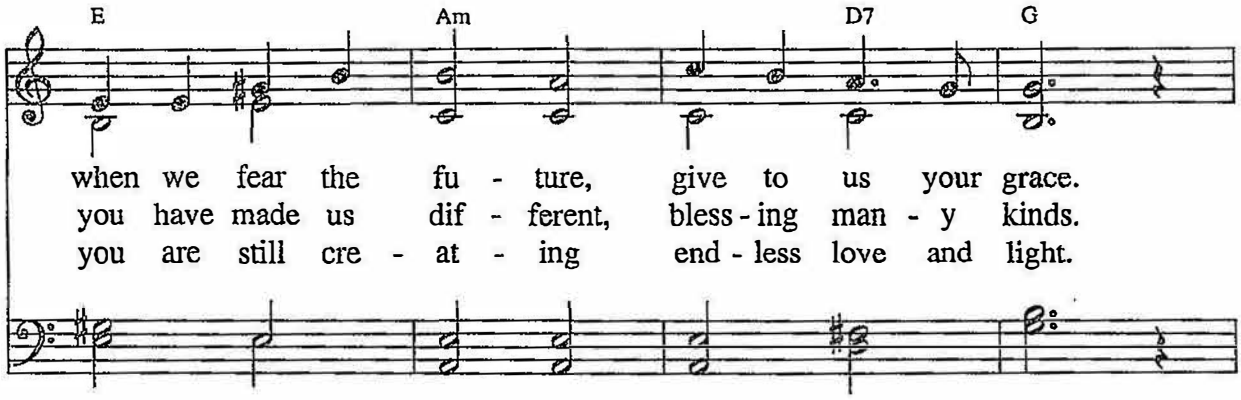
1/2

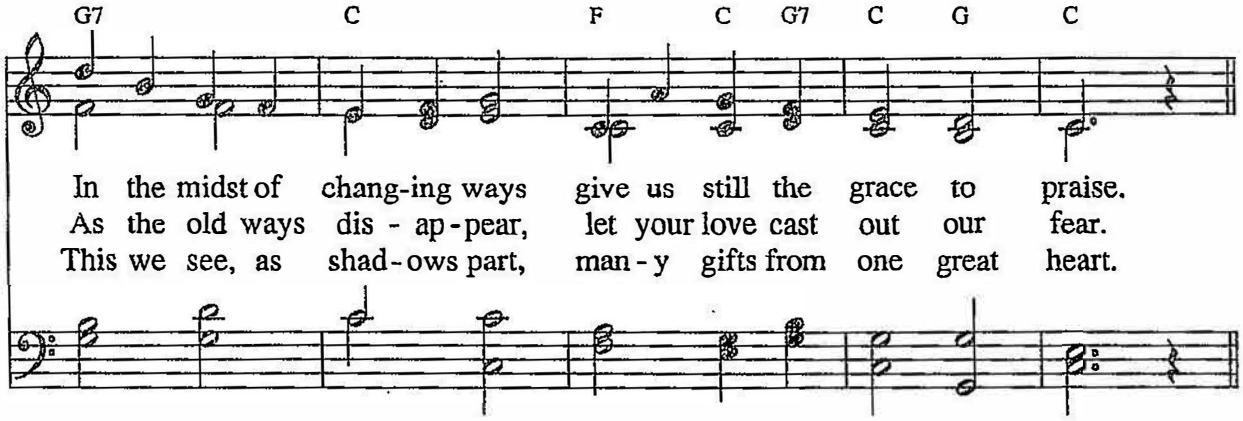
177 God of Change and Glory

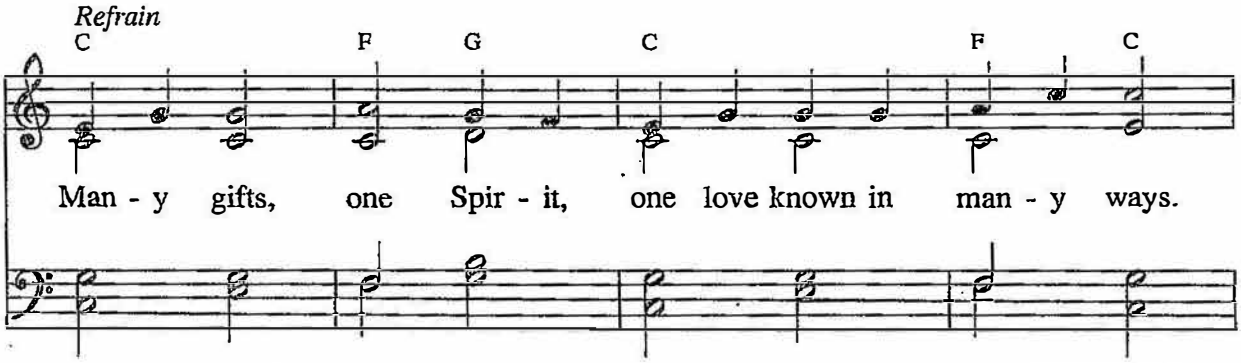
1 Cor. 12:4–27

Al Carmines, 1973









Al Carmines, composer, playwright, performer, and teacher, has served as minister for two United Church of Christ congregations in New York City. This hymn, commissioned in 1973, was one of the first modern texts to claim diversity as a gift from God.

Tune: KATHERINE 6.5.6.5.7.7.
Al Carmines, 1973

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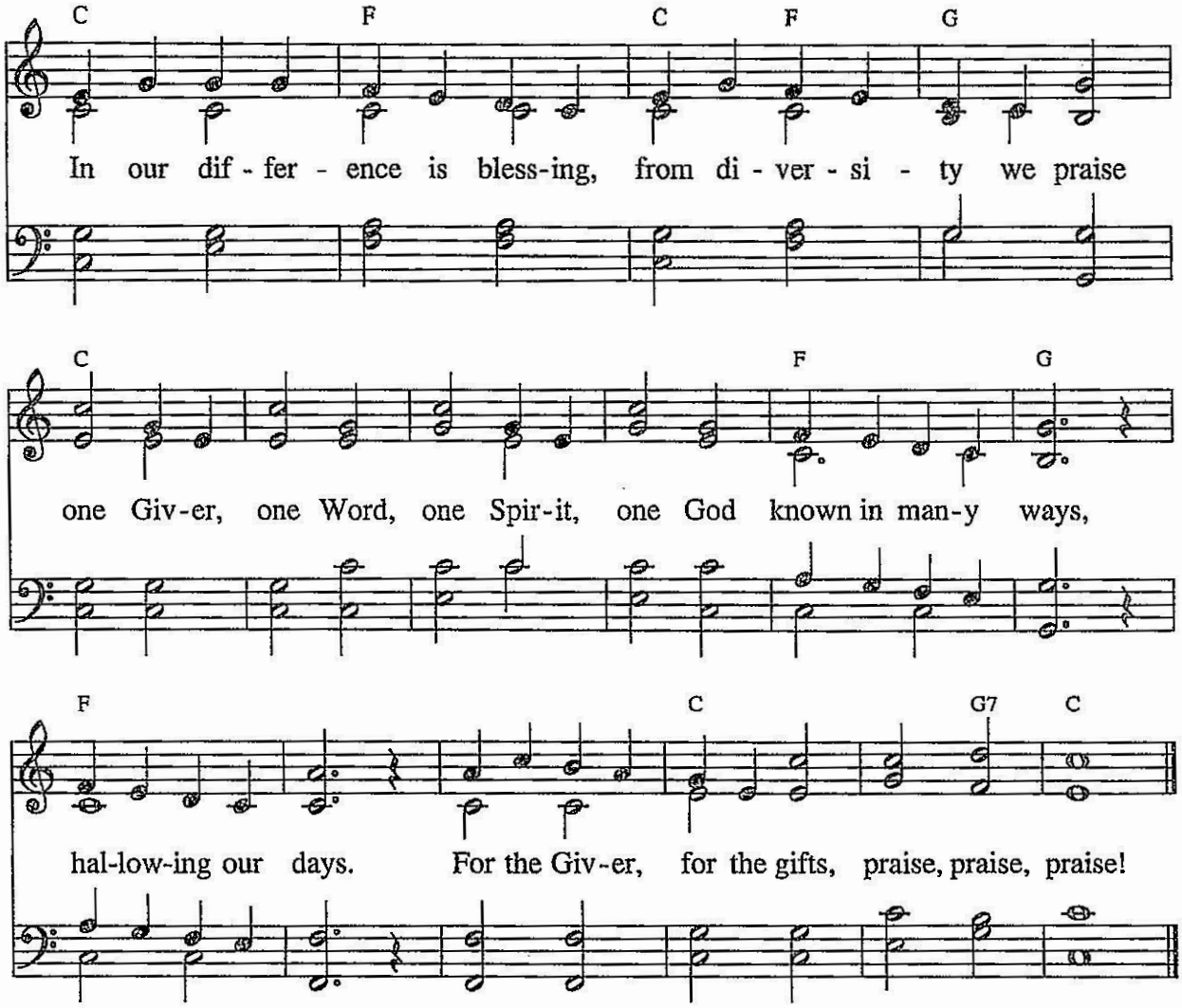
2/2


C F C F G
In our dif - fer - ence is bless-ing, from di - ver - si - ty we praise
C F G
one Giv-er, one Word, one Spir-it, one God known in man-y ways,
F C G7 C
hal-low-ing our days. For the Giv-er, for the gifts, praise, praise, praise!